Only after getting the complete dam details the cases of overcharging of Chloramphenicol Powder and Dextropropoxyphene would be established. The cases of overcharging of Pencillin G by M|s HAL also came to the notice of this Department but M|s. HAL clarified that they supplied Penicillin C Ist Crystals of IP trade. The case of overcharging in respect of Ephederine has been established and the same was listed in the Annexure to Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 418 answered on 27-2-1992.

(c) There is no information regarding overcharging of the price of Ampicillin Sodium Sterile and Erythrmycin by M|s. Mehta Pharmaceuticals.

(d) The cases of overcharging of formulations, in which overcharging has been established were listed in the Annexure to Rajya Sabha Unstarred Qucstion No 418 answered on 27-2-1992.

(e) Few instances of prime facie overcharging have come to the notice of this Department which are being examined to find out the real facts.

Weighted average of major producers of drugs

1945. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU:

SHRIMATI SATYA BAHIN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 3762 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 26th March, 1992 and state:

(a) what are the names of tha bulk drugs prices of which have been fixed during 1991-92 on the basis of the unit as two third cut off level instead of on the basis of weighted average of major units;

(b) what is the price fixed for each drug and what is the difference between the price on the basis of 2/3rd level and on the basis of weighted average of major producers;

(c) what was the percentage of increase earlier price and revised price in each cases; and

(d) what were the earlier, revised and percentage of increase in the prices of the corresponding ceiling packs of formulations and on what net price of the bulk drug were these ceiling prices based?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (c) The prices of bulk drugs are fixed/revised by this Ministry on the basis of cost-cum-technical studies conducted by BICP and their detailed examination in the Ministry in accordance with the provisions laid down under DPCO 1987. BICP is an expert body of the Government on this matter. The price fixation takes into account of the actual cost of production of the major part of the production of the bulk drug in the country and price is fixed so that availability is ensured Revision fixation of prices is a normal part of price control and prices so fixed are notified in the official Gazette.

(d) The prices of ceiling packs of formulations are based on the prices of bulk drugs notified on the above basis.

Liability of M/s. Pfizer

1946. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU:

SHRIMATI SATYA BAHIN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the liability of M/s. Pfizer to pay into the Drug Prices Equilisation Account in respect of various drugs;

(b) whether it is a fact that its liability has not been determined so far as they are taking care of the Officer on Special Duty;

(c) whether it is a fact that this officer and the Development Commissioner (PI) are on the Pay rolls of this company; and

(d) whether it is a fact that both the officers are busy in granting hearings to the companies without producing any results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) The tentative liability of Rs. 87.61 lakhs in respect of Oxytetracycline and its formulations and Rs. 98.00 lakhs in the case of Multivitamin formulations, were communicated to M/s Pfizer vide letters dated 4.6.90 and 11.2.91 respectively. The company however requested for personal hearing to explain its case in detail. The hearings were granted, the Speaking Orders were passed vide letters dated 12.12.91 in both the cases, in which the plea of the company were rejected and its liability was maintained at Rs. 87.61 lakhs and Rs. 98.00 lakhs respectively. The company made yet another representation which was finally rejected with the approval of the competent authority. The company has, however filed Writ Petitions in the Bombay High Court, in April, 1992, in both the cases and therefore, the matters are sub-judice at present. In yet another case, relating to Protinex, for which some data become available from M/s. Pfizer after a number of reminders, the tentative liability of the company has been computed as Rs. 8.83 lakhs and already communicated to it vide letter dated 22-2-1992. Some more data is still awaited in this regard.

(b) to (d) No, Sir. There is absolutely no basis for such a charge against the officers concerned.

Report on import of Tolnafate and Cefotaxim

1947. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA:

CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 303 given in Rajyja Sabha on 12.12.91 and state:

(a) whether Government have promised to call for the report on import of Tolnafate and Cefotaxim where prima facie foreign exchange is being remitted through overinvoicing;

(b) whether nothing has been done in the matter so far;

(c) what are the reasons for this inaction and what are the prices of Tolnafate, Dipyridamol, Chlopromazine, Trifluoperazine and Carbamezepine on which the formulation prices are based at present;

(d) what steps Government have taken to examine the entire matter; and

(e) what is the present position on reducing prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (e) This question relates to subject matter raised in Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 303 answered on 12th December, 1991 on which Assurance was given that a report from Directorate of Revenue Intelligence would be called in regard to specific complaints. This report has since been received and the said Assurance is now in the process of being fulfilled.

Recommending duty concessions on bulk drugs

1948. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA

CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2080 given in Rajya Sabha on 12th December, 1991 and state:

(a) what are the major reasons which weighed with his Ministry in recommending duty concession on bulk drugs/intermediates and formulations;

(b) what are the intermediates and formulations where even after concessions in duty for over a decade dowphasing has not been done and basic production has not been stablished;

(c) whether concessions once granted are not reviewed unless there is a complaint;

(d) what are the names of drugs and formulations, where prices have not reduced after the duty concessions fo